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Allegiances

DISCLAIMER: I do not own Warriors, characters from books, etc.~~ Please tell me if you liked it or not, and if I should continue adding to it ;3 ~If you didn't like it, sorry, but if you did, thanks, I really appreciate it and don't mind comments (even hate comments for you people who don't like it, I'm not one to care about that much)~

Allegiances

Key:

words~ = Clan

*words = Rank (Leader, Warrior, Kit, etc.)

words: = Character Description

Books~ = If you've read the books, you know the characters.

Unknown = Unmentioned

(Only listing characters IN THE STORY, maybe not a whole Clan that never gets mentioned.. but I will add on throughout the story)

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Thunderclan~

*Leader

Firestar: Books~

*Deputy

Unknown

*Medicine Cat
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Cinderpelt: Bookss~

*Queens

Whitewing: Books~

Sunstrike: Pale ginger tabby with ginger paws and tipped tail.

Other names: Sunkkit/Sunpaw; Father: Firestar; Mother: Sandstorm; Mate: Tigerstar; Kits: Gingerkit (deceased); Specklekit (desceased); Darkheart

*Kits

Gingerkit: A bright ginger tabby she-kit that died soon after she was born

Specklekit: A white tomkit with little black flecks covering his tail and pelt, with a little black spot on his right eye and a black right ear; died soon after he was born

Riverclan~

*Leader

Silentstar: Cruel, dark stone-gray cat with piercing black eyes who took over Riverclan

*Deputy

Stonefur: Books~

*Warriors

Silverstream: Books~

Skyclan~

*Leader

Echostar: White she-cat with soft blue eyes and distinctive silver markings and stripes that cover her

*Deputy

Sharptail: Strong, dark brown tomcat with black-striped, short tail

Apprentice: Blackpaw

*Medicine Cat

Goldencloud: Pale ginger tabby that takes the appearance of a gold she-cat, with muddy-colored paws, a black left ear, nose spots, and eye spot on her right eye.

*Warriors

Rockpelt: Pale gray tomcat with a pelt speckled in a darker gray

Apprentice: Mosspaw

Grayclaw: Dark gray tom

Apprentice: Branchpaw

Wildflower: Kind, gentle, and patient she-cat with a golden pelt.

Apprentice: Scarletpaw

Maplestump: Pale brown tabby she-cat

*Apprentices

Branchpaw: Light brown tabby tom

Mosspaw: pale ginger tabby she-cat with muddy-colored paws and tail, and orange belly fur

Blackpaw: Dark brown tabby tom with emerald green eyes. Has three black stripes on his back like claw-marks.

Scarletpaw: Deep red she-cat with bloodred eyes. Has an arrogant attitude.

Darkpaw: Black she-cat with purple, magenta, and pink markings

Other names: Darkkit, Darkpaw, Darkheart; Father: Tigerstar; Mother: Sunstrike; Mate: None Kits: None

*Queens

Dappletail(not from Thunderclan): Beautiful white she-cat with shades of brown and black dappling her tail, along her back, and on the top of her head, ending right at the end of her dazzling yellow eyes

Rockclan *coming soon*~

More allegiances to come

MetalClan~

*Leader

Iron: black tom with gray-tipped fur with blue eyes

*Deputy

Thunder: dark gray tom with amber eyes

Apprentice: Shadow

*Warriors

Steel: gray tom with blue eyes

Cloud: white tom with green eyes

Apprentice: Deep

*Apprentices

Shade: White tom with black paws, tail-tip, and ear-tips, with amber eyes.

Shadow: Dark gray she-cat with black paws and tabby stripes and a single dog-tooth stuck on her collar, and dark purple eyes

SharpClan~

*Leader

Claw: black-and-white tom with green eyes and large claws

*Deputy

Mud: brown tabby tom with green eyes

Cats not in Clans~

Ice: a bright turquoise cat with royal blue markings, a rogue she-cat

Blue: a royal blue cat with bright turqoise markings, a rogue she-cat

Ginger: a rogue ginger she-cat with darker ginger markings and amber eyes

Orange: Dark ginger loner with green eyes

Jake: plump, pale ginger (light orange-ish) tabby tom with blue eyes, a kittypet

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Chapter 1: Kitnapped

Darkkit was always the "different" kit in her litter. She was the last to be born, and the quietest of the three. But, the night after they were born, her brother, Specklekit, and sister, Gingerkit, died of an unknown disease in leaf-bare. Sunstrike, her mother, knew only one of her kits would survive. Spottedleaf had visited her in a dream when she was an apprentice, and told her this prophecy:

"Darkness will meet the Stars, one of three born of darkness and light, and a great leader must rise choose their destiny."

Spottedleaf had told Sunstrike later on to tell the one born of three before they reached 12 moons of age, and she agreed.

When she was about 3 moons old, Darkkit had begun to be more adventurous and sneaky. One day, she decided to sneak out of camp. It was just before newleaf, and the leaf-bare chill still hung in the air. She wandered out by the lake, watching the dawn's light dance off the water. Suddenly, she heard a cry of a cat behind her. "Darkkit!" She turned to see Whitewing, bounding towards her. She thought she was in trouble, so she crouched down on the ground shamefully. A loud splash roared behind her, and she was blindly pulled underwater before Whitewing could get her paws on her. She was underwater for too long, and went unconscious.

When she woke up, she was in the middle of a strange place, lying in front of a huge tom, dripping wet and slightly shivering. Her senses came back in a rush, and she realized she was drenched and shivering, too. Slowly, the clan came out of their dens and formed a makeshift circle around us.

"What in Starclan??--" she heard a beautiful silver she-cat say, but was cut off by a loud, commanding voice.

"What is this doing here?" the tom's voice meowed, stepping into the space in the middle of the circle right in front of her. Darkkit just lay there, working on controlling her shivering.

"She is a Thunderclan kit, Silentstar," the shivering gray tom said proudly. "Why is it here?" Silentstar growled. "I took her from Thunderclan territory," he mewed slowly, pawing at her to make sure she was still alive. Silentstar stared at him. "How? Shadowclan and Windclan wouldn't allow you to pass through their territory, they would see your head in the lake, and even if you made it that far, I don't think Thunderclan would just watch you take a kit so easily." The gray tom raised himself up in pride. "I swam underwater. And the kit was by the lake." Darkkit had stop shivering, and her fur had dried off to a damp state.

"Stonefur only did it to impress Silentstar," she heard a she-cat meow from the crowd to another cat, purposefully loud enough for them to hear. Stonefur glared menacingly at her, and she fell silent. Darkpaw had begun washing my coat when Silentstar meowed, "Well done, Stonefur. She'll make a fine Riverclan warrior someday, and if not, we can always keep her as a prisoner now for hunting rights in Thunderclan." Darkkit stopped in mid-lick and stood up, giving them the best hiss she could manage. She opened one eye, and guessed it was pathetic, because their stares had shifted into looks of mild amusement and annoyance. She glared at them, but inwardly, she was terrified and wanted them to take her home. She regretted now sneaking out just to see the lake..

Silentstar swatted a paw at her, but Darkkit was already prepared. She pounced a mouse-length away before his paw could reach her, and lunged at his other front-paw. She dug her tiny teeth into his leg. He swatted Darkpaw back with his paw, licking the tiny dots of blood her teeth left. "What's her name?" Silentstar meowed to Stonefur. "I believe it is Darkkit," Stonefur meowed edgily. Darkkit was crouching defensively and shrank even lower as Silentstar meowed, "Her mentor will be Silverstream. Until she is named a warrior her name will be Darkpaw." Silverstream watched Silentstar with utter shock. "But I'm only three moons!" Darkpaw squeaked from her clump of grass. *Surely he wouldn't go against the warrior code?* "Silentstar, please!" Silverstream meowed from her place in the crowd. "She's only a kit! A kit doesn't need--" "A kit who can fight," interrupted Silentstar. "Her training begins now."

Chapter 2: Runaway

Silverstream had taught Darkpaw much today, much more than she thought could be done in only a few days. She showed her the territory borders, where the Shadowclan border was near Greenleaf place, and the border near Horseplace. Then, they went to the river and she taught Darkpaw how to swim like an otter, in which she caught on quickly and learned how to catch fish easily while doing so. It was easy for her; she was fast and an easy learner. The days passed quickly, and before she knew it Darkpaw had learned all the Clan scents by memory.

That night, she had told Silverstream she was running away, and Silverstream understood. She crept out of camp with only Starclan as a witness, planning to go through Shadowclan and straight back to Thunderclan. Darkpaw was 4 moons now, with the Gathering being last night, and she thought she could take care of herself. Of course, she was at the Thunderclan border the same time Shadowclan's patrol was and, as expected, the Shadowclan warriors took her to their camp, making her a prisoner.

The dawn light shone through the nursery entrance, and so Darkpaw decided to sneak out now. She slipped through a hole in the back and dashed out of the nursery, hiding in the shadows perfectly. But instead of going to Thunderclan camp, Darkpaw dashed through the forest.

She didn't stop there. Darkpaw continued to run, up and past the mountains of Windclan, much further than any kit had gone before. She continued to run until she found no cat scent in a nice spot on a mountain. She ate a rabbit she caught a while back and slept from dawn til moonhigh again, and continued to run. She kept running for a couple moons, rarely stopping to eat and to sleep, until one night she ran straight into a strange-smelling cat.

Chapter 3: Skyclan

"Hello," the she-cat meowed. Darkpaw looked at her and knew she was pretty for a forest cat. She was a white she-cat with distinctive silver markings covering her pelt. "Hi," Darkpaw mewed shyly, jumping back defensively from tackling her, expecting an attack. "You don't seem familiar," she meowed, observing her. "I- I'm new to these parts."

The she-cat watched her for a while, and said "Well, you look like you're a bit tired, little one. How would you like to rest in Skyclan camp?" Darkpaw watched her, stunned. *Would this cat really trust her to stay in her camp?* "Sure," Darkpaw replied warily. "I'm Echostar." Darkpaw nodded, and she added, "What is yours?" Darkpaw blinked. "Oh, mine's Darkpaw." Echostar nodded thoughtfully, and sprinted down the hill. Darkpaw followed, slowing to keep with Echostar's pace. She spotted a gorge and before she could say anything, Echostar pounced down into the gorge.

"Echostar!" Darkpaw yowled in surprise. *What was she thinking?* Then, she saw Echostar poke her head over the side of the gorge. "Coming, Darkpaw?" Darkpaw stumbled over to the side of the gorge to see rocks that she'd landed on purposefully to climb on. Darkpaw slowly climbed down the rocks until she thought it was safe to jump down. Darkpaw pounced down next to Echostar, who was waiting for her. Darkpaw looked around the gorge. The inside of the gorge had been converted into a camp. "Where is everyone?" Darkpaw meowed, observing the empty camp. "The kits are in the nursery, and the apprentices and warriors are sleeping," meowed Echostar smoothly. A sleek, light ginger tabby stepped out of a den. "Hi, Echostar. How was the--" She stopped and paused to look at Darkpaw, and mewed with mild suspicion, "Who is this?" Darkpaw shuffled her paws shyly. *Would Echostar's Clan accept me?*

"This is Darkpaw," Echostar meowed, interrupting Darkpaw's thoughts. "She is visiting us, Goldencloud." Darkpaw

watched as Goldencloud circled her slowly, observing her. She finally got around and sat next to Echostar, whispering something to her. They both nodded and watched her expectantly. "How old are you, Darkpaw?" meowed Echostar. "Five moons.." Darkpaw mewed quietly. "Why are you called Darkpaw then?" Goldencloud burst before Echostar could speak. "Riverclan made me an apprentice at four moons, I didn't want to!" Darkpaw meowed quickly. She was so confused.

"Well, the next full moon is soon," Echostar meowed. "Would you like to join Skyclan, Darkkit?" Darkkit nodded, purring in delight to go back to her old name. "Go to the nursery with the other kits now," Echostar purred, licking Darkkit in between her ears affectionately before she scrambled into the nursery. Darkkit's life was finally starting to get back to normal.

Chapter 4: The Nursery

When Darkkit first stepped in the nursery, she was a bit shy. She saw two pairs of eyes, glowing in the darkness, watching her carefully. One pair was emerald green, while the other pair was a soft yellow. Darkkit blinked, adjusting to the darkness of the nursery to see a queen and one kit. "Hi!" the kit mewed cheerfully. "What's your name? Mine's Mosskit!" Darkkit observed the kit, and grinned shyly. "Darkkit," she replied quietly.

"How old are you?" the queen meowed from behind the kit, smiling at Mosskit's behavior. "Five. I'll be six tonight," Darkkit mewed proudly. The queen smiled at her and mewed, "Congratulations. I'm Dappletail, Mosskit's mother." One good look at Dappletail, and Darkkit knew she was a beautiful queen even after kitting.

Suddenly, Mosskit pounced on her, trying to pin her down while purring playfully. Darkkit was scared at first, until she realized what she was doing, she smirked, with a glint of competitiveness in her eyes, and rolled over, pinning her down as soon as she got out from under her. "Wow," Mosskit mewed in awe. "I've never seen a kit play that game as good as you." Darkkit got off of her, stepping a mouselength away from her to sit, curling her tail over her paws neatly.

Mosskit rolled over onto her belly, washing her paws. "I'll be six moons tonight, too. Maybe we'll be able to train together!" mewed Mosskit as Dappletail took over grooming her fur. "That may be so," Dappletail meowed through licks, smiling at her kit affectionately.

Darkkit glanced at the entrance to the nursery. The light was fading, which meant the moon would rise soon. The meows from the cats outside in the camp also sent her signals that the naming ceremony would be soon. Darkpaw and Mosskit played until it was moonhigh, when we heard the yowl from the Highrock. Dappletail stood up, and we glanced at each other excitedly as she

nudged us out of the nursery, and we walked out towards the Highrock together, where Echostar awaited to give us our apprentice names.

Chapter 5: Apprentices

Darkkit and Mosskit sat with Dappletail under the Highrock, flicking their tails impatiently. Before Darkpaw could think, she heard Echostar's meow and watched expectantly. "Darkkit and Mosskit, please step forward." Echostar meowed from the Rock Pile. Mosskit and Darkpaw took a few pawsteps forward, standing tall and could barely keep still with so much excitement. *Who will be my mentor? What would be my first lesson in training?*

"This apprentice will be called Mosspaw," Darkpaw heard Echostar mew through her own thoughts. Darkpaw snapped back into reality when she saw Echostar's eyes lay on her as she meowed to the crowd, "From this day forward, until she has earned her warrior name, she will be called Darkpaw." Darkpaw lifted her chin, glowing with pride. She noticed Mosspaw standing near a gray tom, watching Darkpaw and Echostar with bright, energenic eyes.

"Darkpaw, Darkpaw!" the cats below yowled.

"I, myself, will mentor Darkpaw," Echostar meowed loudly, and low whispers began below the Rock Pile. Yowls of protest began to break out. "She's a rogue cat! She shouldn't get special treatment!" called a dark brown apprentice from the crowd. "She probably fights like a kittypet!" he meowed, curling his lips in a snarl.

Echostar looked down at Darkpaw, but her mind was way ahead of Echostar's. Darkpaw's ears were flattened as she hissed down at him, claws unsheathed. Darkpaw pounced down on the apprentice's back, pinning him to the dusty ground. Darkpaw dug her claws into his back as he hissed in shock. He rolled over, crushing her in the dust with his size. He didn't waste a minute. The apprentice began to turn over, trying to pin her down. Before he could get onto his paws, she craned her neck and clamped his left ear in her jaws. He tried to pull free, making her pull harder on his ear. The ear ripped off with a jerk, the top half of his ear in her mouth.

The cats were silent as he rolled off of her, yowling in pain. Darkpaw sat up, panting, and began to wash the few wounds he'd given her. Echostar pounced down from the Rock Pile next to her just as Goldencloud had checked the apprentice. "He will live," Goldencloud meowed over her shoulder.

"When will he be able to train again?" growled a dark gray tom. "By next moonhigh, Grayclaw," she meowed impatiently. "Darkpaw has proved her honor by fighting Branchpaw, who had challenged her, questioning her loyalty to the Clan," Echostar cut in. "So, I will mentor her." By then, the cats began to agree reluctantly and disband into groups. Echostar padded past Branchpaw and Goldencloud, into her den.

"That was amazing!" Mosspaw purred from behind her in awe. Darkpaw was watching Branchpaw apologetically, but Branchpaw had his green eyes shut tight, trying to keep them shut with noticeable effort. "Hey, I didnt know you could glow like that," Mosspaw mewed, snapping Darkpaw's gaze to her and mewed, "Glow?" Mosspaw's purr grew louder with amusement. "You were glowing during the fight. The black-ish glow made you look like a shadow," Mosspaw meowed through her purr. "I didn't know I glowed," Darkpaw mewed quietly. Mosspaw's purring stopped, watching Darkpaw wide-eyed. "Maybe it was just the moonlight," Darkpaw mewed quickly, and Mosspaw nodded, and smiled, obviously attempting to forget it.

"So, who is your mentor?" Darkpaw meowed, trying to change the subject. "Rockpelt," Mosspaw mewed, pointing towards a pale gray tabby with a brown-speckled pelt with her nose. Darkpaw nodded and mewed a congradulations, and for a few moments they sat in silence. "Let's get some sleep, we've got a big day tomorrow!" Mosspaw meowed, breaking the silence, and we padded over to the apprentices' den. Branchpaw had disappeared, so she had assumed he was staying with Goldencloud for the night.

We padded into the apprentices' den, where two other apprentices were sleeping soundly in the back of the den. "Well, I'm going to get some sleep before it's dawn already," Mosspaw mewed, already curling up in a nest of moss she had made. Darkpaw laid next to her in an empty next. Mosspaw was already asleep, and her

calm breathing soothed Darkpaw. Before Darkpaw knew it, she was asleep. When she opened her eyes, she was in a forest. Darkpaw looked up at the sky, and gazed in shock and fear as she saw no stars above.

Chapter 6: Darkpaw's Dream

Darkpaw looked around warily. *Where was she?* The forest around her was dark, shadows covering every corner. The small clearing she lay in was dimly lit by the moon. Darkpaw sat up, watching the shadows nervously. After a few moments, Darkpaw saw something within the shadows move, and she unsheathed her claws defensively.

"Who are you?" Darkpaw growled at the pair of yellow eyes that had appeared in the shadows. "Tigerstar," the tom meowed calmly, smiling mischievously as he stepped into the opposite side of the clearing, sitting down and curling his tail neatly over his paws. "I don't know who that is," Darkpaw meowed suspiciously. "Me.. But you may know me as your father," Tigerstar purred, his smile growing. "Y- you can't be my father!" Darkpaw mewed in shock. "Oh, Sunstrike never told you?" Tigerstar purred louder, raising his eyebrows in mock surprise. Tigerstar stood up and walked over to Darkpaw, sitting beside her and wrapping his tail around Darkpaw, who flinched at his touch. "My mother would've told me," Darkpaw hissed at him, shivering as his fur brushed against hers. "Your mother was a mousebrained fool," Tigerstar growled. "You were meant to rule the Clans with your half-brothers, Darkpaw," continued Tigerstar.

"Half brothers?" Darkpaw mewed. "Hawkfrost will be leader of Riverclan and Shadowclan, Brambleclaw will lead Thunderclan and Windclan, and when you get older, you will rule Skyclan." meowed Tigerstar confidently. "All the cats who deny their Lake Territory rule will die or flee to Skyclan, where you will take them or they will face death there," Tigerstar went on. "But what if I don't get deputy position? And.. and what if I don't want to?" Darkpaw mewed slowly. Tigerclaw moved his eyes from the shadows to meet hers, his amber eyes glaring at her with anger. "You will. You have no choice."

Darkpaw glared up at him now, claws still unsheathed and

ready. "Starclan always gives a choice." Suddenly she was pinned to the ground by Tigerstar, and he hissed into her face, "Starclan isn't here to watch over you in the Dark Forest, Darkpaw." Darkpaw used her anger to lend her strength as she barely heaved him off of her with her hind legs. He landed behind her on his paws, claws unsheathed and looking mockingly amused. She rolled over and stood defensively, hissing at him, "Starclan may not be watching, but they lend me their strength when needed."

Tigerstar pounced at her, and they rolled around on the spiky-bladed grass, clawing each other viciously. In the end, she had given him a nasty cut on his side, but he had pinned her down again. She struggled as he loosened his grip. She rolled onto her side, and he dug his claws into her as she rolled over, raking them down slowly and painfully, and got off of her as she yowled in pain. She turned to look at the wound, to see three huge claw marks bleeding heavily. She hissed up at him as she struggled to stand up, failing, while he sat down and washed his wounds.

"Remember, Darkpaw, who is in charge around here," Tigerstar meowed when he had finished washing his wounds. She yowled again as pain radiated through her, squinting her eyes shut tight. When she opened them, she was in the Skyclan apprentice den, blood soaking her fur.

Chapter 7: Confessions

"What happened to you?!" Mosspaw meowed from her nest, eyes wide. Darkpaw did not respond, staring out at the stars. Darkpaw barely noticed as Mosspaw disappeared from the nest, reappearing with Goldencloud and blocking her view. "Get her to my den. Now," Goldencloud ordered, checking her wounds. Darkpaw barely noticed being dragged to the medicine den by Mosspaw as she stared blankly in the distance. Mosspaw lay her in a nest inside the medicine den, and Goldencloud stood in front of Darkpaw, snapping her back into reality.

"Now, what's happened to you?" Goldencloud meowed, her attention drawn to the herbs at her paws as she shuffled some towards Darkpaw's mouth and started chewing others into a poultice. Darkpaw didn't respond while Goldencloud spat the juices into her wound, covering it with cobwebs. "Well?" Goldencloud said at last, finishing her treatment. Darkpaw glanced at Mosspaw uneasily, watching her fear-struck eyes. Goldencloud seemed to notice, because she meowed promptly to Mosspaw, "Go on and get some rest. She'll be fine, and you can come see her in the morning." After a few heartbeats Darkpaw began to think she wouldn't go, but Mosspaw finally got up and padded out of the den edgily.

Goldencloud watched her leave, and Darkpaw thought she saw longing and pain in her eyes before she turned and repeated icily to her, "Well?" Darkpaw looked down at her paws. "Some cat attacked me in my dreams," she muttered. Goldencloud was silent for a moment. "What did this cat look like?" Darkpaw searched her mind, arranging her thoughts. "His name was Tigerstar," mewed Darkpaw blankly. "We were somewhere dark, no stars were in the sky above." Darkpaw looked up at Goldencloud to find her deep in thought. "You and Tigerstar in the Dark Forest? Why would he want to lure you there in your dreams? What did he say to you?" Darkpaw hesitated again. *How much could she tell Goldencloud?* Darkpaw decided she had to trust her. If Goldencloud wouldn't understand, no cat would. "He told me I was his daughter," she

meowed at last. Goldencloud's face seemed to show a flash of surprise, but most of her emotions were concealed.

"Darkpaw, have I ever told you about Steel?" Goldencloud meowed absently. "No, of course I haven't, you haven't even been here for a whole moon," she continued rambling to herself. "He is my mate," she mumbled, looking down at her paws. "Mosspaw is my kit." Darkpaw's eyes widened in shock, and the medicine cat's eyes closed in regret. "I loved him," she murmured. "I still do, but he and I both know we cannot see each other. We belong to different Clans.." "What Clan is Steel in?" mewed Darkpaw gently, trying to calm her. "A small Twolegplace Clan, full of rogues," Goldencloud explained. "Called MetalClan."

Darkpaw dug the name into her mind: MetalClan. Cursing herself for obediently chewing the poppy seeds as Goldencloud had asked earlier, she began to drift off into a calm, dreamless sleep. "Tell no cat of this, Darkpaw.." Goldencloud murmured. Although she blamed it on the drowsiness of the poppy seeds' effect, she swore to StarClan she heard Goldencloud whimpering in pain from being away from her mate for so long and not ever being able to be a true mother to Mosspaw.

Chapter 8: Making Bets

After what seemed like a moon of being shut in the medicine den for healing, she was finally released to resume her training. She had been training on her hunting techniques, as well as learning the territory and the boundaries. She had caught up with Mosspaw with ease, slipping through training with the experience she'd gotten from apprenticeship in Riverclan.

Scarletpaw and Blackpaw, senior apprentices, sat at one end of the gorge, sharing a fat squirrel and having a conversation she couldn't hear. Mosspaw padded over to them and mewed something to them, looking hopeful, and was replied by a sneer from Scarletpaw and a snappy reply. Mosspaw looked crestfallen as she padded over to Darkpaw.

"What happened over there?" Darkpaw hissed as soon as Mosspaw was in earshot. "I tried to ask if I could eat with them, and Scarletpaw.." Mosspaw did not finish her sentence, her eyes hollow and her face blank with rejection. "Don't mind her," she reassured Mosspaw. "Scarletpaw's just a bit.." "Protective?" Mosspaw finished, snapping her eyes towards her. "Well, I didnt mean that.." Darkpaw, began, but was interrupted.

"Care to catch a few squirrels?" Scarletpaw strolled by, seeming to slither past them in her blood-red pelt. "Bet I can catch more than all of you put together." Darkpaw glared at her in defiance. "I'll take that bet," she challenged. "I bet I can catch more squirrels than you by sunset by myself." Scarletpaw glared at her in fury. "Fine." Before she could say more, Scarletpaw dashed away towards the forest. Darkpaw growled in annoyance and followed, leaving Mosspaw and Blackpaw staring after the two dumbfounded.

Chapter 9: Scarletpaw's Competition

Darkpaw scanned the leafy ground from the trees, on alert for any signs of movement. She leapt from branch to branch silently for a while before sighting a small flicker of movement. Watching from above, she saw the gray fur of a squirrel standing in the leaves, knawing on a nut. She crouched on the branch, claws unsheathed, and pounced off, only to butt heads with another cat as the squirrel dashed off just in time.

"Hey! That was my kill!" Darkpaw hisses, lifting her head to see the sly face of Scarletpaw. "It was my kill as much as yours. You're in my part of the forest, anyway. I get the kills on this side." Darkpaw stared at her for a moment. "Fine, fine. Neither of us are to cross that rock,' nodding towards a stone between two large oaks, "into another's area. That way this won't happen again." Scarletpaw swished her tail. "Very well," she meowed, "but I'll still win." She leapt into the forest on her side before Darkpaw could reply, leaving her alone in anger.

Darkpaw leapt into the trees on her side and hunted this way from sunhigh to sunset. She returned to camp with two plump squirrels in her mouth, seeing that Scarletpaw had already came back with three squirrels total. "Seems you aren't as good as you thought you were," she purred victoriously. "Oh, but these are just my first load," Darkpaw purred back, heading back into the forest with Mosspaw following to help. They returned, Darkpaw carrying two squirrels and Mosspaw carrying one. They dropped the squirrels off at the fresh-kill pile, smiling at Scarletpaw's furious glare. "Seems that *you* aren't as good as you thought you were," Mosspaw meowed. Scarletpaw leapt onto her paws, getting nose-to-nose with Darkpaw. "This isn't over." She stomped to the apprentices' den, Blackpaw following slower with a confused expression on his face. "Good job!" Mosspaw purred. "It was nothing," Darkpaw mewed, taking one of her squirrels from the pile

and going over to a spot to share with Mosspaw.

"It's a miracle no warriors caught you two out of camp without any warriors with you," Mosspaw meowed quietly through a mouthful of squirrel. "Well, it's all over now," Darkpaw replied. After they finished their meal, they returned to the apprentices' den, curling up into their nests for a good night's sleep. But, even though they were victorious, they both felt the uneasy feeling that they were being watched that night, specifically by a pair of vicious scarlet eyes.

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Ehhh? How did you guys like itttt? I haven't written in so longgg! I really need to be more active. Oh, and how did you like the new format, with indenting and stuff? I'm probably doing it at the most inappropriate times to do such, but whatever xD Anyway, I'll try being more active, but I'll be on my phone until Sunday or Monday! ~~

Chapter 10: Greenleaf Troubles

"Hey, that was really cool-- what you did yesterday," Blackpaw meowed, setting his prey down to sit by Mosspaw and Darkpaw. "Really, I was just hunting for my Clan, it's no big deal," Darkpaw assured, taking a bite of squirrel. The dawn light beamed down on the gorge, warming their fur. It was beginning to turn greenleaf, and all of the forest was alive with the spirit of it. The squirrels rustled the leaves in the trees while birds sang their songs; mice and voles scurried on the forest floor. Although all of this greenleaf and newleaf prey makes it easier to feed the Clan, it gets harder to keep the Twolegplace Clans to stay on their side of the border.

"We caught another MetalClan warrior crossing the border today, and a whole patrol of SharpClan warriors hunting in our territory," Darkpaw overheard Sharptail telling Echostar. "And you took care of it?" she replied, her tail-tip twitching in distress. "Of course, Echostar, but how long can we simply chase them out until they decide to fight back?" Sharptail meowed, a dark look on his face. "We'll take care of that problem as it arises," Echostar mewed, standing, and beginning to walk away showing that the discussion was clearly over. She couldn't hear what Sharptail had muttered afterwards, but she kept trying to figure it out.

"Well, I gotta dash, dawn patrol this morning. You coming, Mosspaw?" Blackpaw meowed, snapping Darkpaw's attention back into reality. "Yeah, yeah, I'm coming. See you at sunhigh, Darkpaw!" Mosspaw mewed cheerfully, jumping up to catch up with Blackpaw, who was already on his way up the gorge with the patrol. She watched them, and she suddenly felt like someone was doing the same to her. She saw the flash of a scarlet pelt, and her muscles tensed. "This isn't over," she hissed into her ear, but as Darkpaw turned around, claws unsheathed, there was no one there; but the scent of her still hung in the air. "Darkpaw, are you coming?" Scarletpaw called, standing by Echostar, Maplestump, and Wildflower, her mentor. She stood and followed them up the gorge to hunt, fur bristling. As the warriors got ahead of her, Scarletpaw

dropped back to stand by Darkpaw.

"So you're spending a lot of time with Blackpaw," she purred, curling her tail over Darkpaw's bristling back. "Such a cute little couple" she continued, seeing Darkpaw's ear twitch in embarrassment and purring louder in satisfaction. "And don't say that you're 'just friends' because you don't see what will become." Scarletpaw paused for a moment, contemplating her next move. "Well, it will just raise the cliff you're going to fall off when your heart gets broken, my dear. The longer you keep dreaming about him, the higher it's gonna be, and I'd just hate for it to get so high that you get hurt. But the question is, will you fall or get pushed?" Scarletpaw meowed, and went back up ahead calmly as if nothing had happened, leaving Darkpaw alone and confused. *I don't even like him that well. We're just friends, he knows that...*

but do I know that?

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Maybe I hinted a little too much? ;3 Oh well. I think it's going along smoothly. I'm even thinking about beginning a new story I'm making (Not about Warriors!) about birds. It's kinda like Warriors, but no Clans or anything. It'll be quite different, but some things may stay the same, like for one, the talking animals perhaps? Oh well. Hope you all enjoyed!
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